# The COMET

(Patent Pending)

Auarantee

This camera has been thoroughly tested before leaving the factory and found to be in excellent operating condition. If the enclosed instructions are followed carefully, the COMET CAMERA should give many years of satisfactory service.

Your COMET CAMERA is guaranteed against defective materials and work-manship for a period of one year from date of purchase.

This guarantee does not cover operating failures caused by improper or careless handling at any time, and a reasonable charge will be made for such repairs. A detailed description of the problem should accompany the camera,

ZENITH CAMERA CORPORATION CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, U.S.A.

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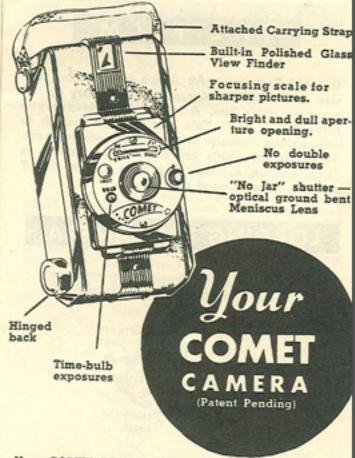
# "TIPS" ON GOOD



- ★ Be sure the focusing scale is set at the right distance.
- ★ Hold the camera steady when tripping the shutter.
- \* Advance the film after each picture to avoid double exposure.
- \* Locate the subject in the center of the view finder.
- \* Keep camera level.
- \* Use correct aperture opening.
- \* Keep the lens free of dust or finger prints.
- ★ Do not face the camera directly into the sun.



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Your COMET CAMERA is a well designed, carefully made camera capable of making fine pictures with great simplicity of operation.

The focusing feature, no jar shutter and scientifically designed meniscus lens make possible sharp pictures of objects at any distance from two feet to infinity, capable of good enlargements up to  $5 \times 7$ and  $8 \times 10$ .

No fixed or universal focus camera can give sharp pictures over such a range. Only focusing permits this.

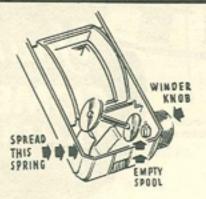
Closeups of objects such as flowers, pictures, portraits of heads, full length figures and landscapes are all within the range of the COMET. It takes pictures indoors and outdoors in black and white or full color.

Since the quality of pictures taken with any camera depends on the proper use of the camera — a little time spent on studying the operation of the COMET is well worth while.

#### THE FILM

Use 127 Eastman — A8 Ansco or any other 127 size roll film. For color pictures use any of the accepted color film. A roll of film gives 8 pictures 15%" x 21/4". This size is large enough to see objects clearly without any enlargement. When enlargements are desired the picture is large enough to stand "blowing up" to 5 x 7 and 8 x 10 with good details.

### LOADING THE CAMERA



The empty spool is placed in the winder knob end. The slotted end of the spool is inserted in the hole in the winder knob with the cross pin in the slot. The other end of the spool is snapped in the spring so the end drops into the hole. Turn the knob in the direction of the arrow to see if the spool is properly seated. (CAUTION—Never turn the winder knob backwards).

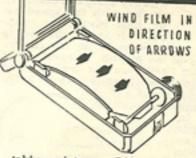
The full spool is placed in the other end with the spool ends snapping into the holes in the springs. Make sure the film unwinds from the top. (Never load the camera in direct sunlight).



Slit the adhesive that holds the end of the film backing, pull the end just far enough to insert in the empty spool. The empty spool must first be turned so the broad side of the slot is ready to receive the

film back. Make sure the end tab is all the way through the slot and turn the winder knob in the direction of the arrow until the film backing is wound a couple of times on the empty spool and all the slack is taken up. Then close the camera, pressing the ends together and making sure the spring catch has locked.

### OPERATION OF FILM WINDER



Next, turn the wind up knob until the figure "l" shows in the red window on the back of the camera. There will first come a warning pointed hand to show that number "l" is coming up. When it appears, the camera is ready for

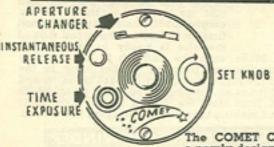
taking pictures. After each snap, wind up the film to the next number. It is advisable to get into the habit of winding up the film immediately after each picture to avoid double exposures. After the eighth picture keep winding the film up until it is all on the winder spool.



#### REMOVING SPOOLS

The ZENITH COMET CAMERA has a special film ejector spring to remove spools—at winder end, simply press back the spring and spool is ejected into your hand; at other end, separate both springs and spool is ejected. Be careful not to allow film to unwind in removing loaded spool. After film is out of camera, glue down the loose end with the adhesive strip provided on the spool itself.

#### **OPERATION OF SHUTTER**



The COMET CAMERA has a newly designed exclusive shutter with the speed set for best results for snapshots. It is constructed to

release with a very minimum of jar so the camera does not move and spoil the picture. To operate, set the shutter by turning "set" knob in the direction of the arrow until a click is felt. Then release set knob.

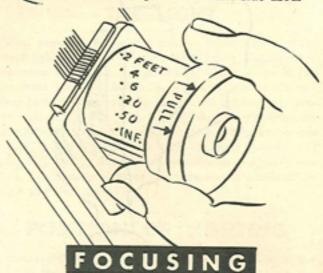
It will come to original position. To snap a picture, simply press lightly on the instantaneous release button (marked "Inst."). For time exposures, press the button marked "bulb". It must be held down for the duration of the exposure and then released. Hold camera on flat surface such as table. Hold securely. While it is down the shutter is open. When it is released the shutter is closed.

The proper way to operate the instantaneous or bulb release button is to place the forefinger over the button and the thumb back of it behind the lens cap. To snap pictures, simply squeeze, holding the hand as steady as possible. Due to the short release travel and light touch required your camera should stay quite steady.





The aperture changer (located on the lens cap just over the lens) is used to allow large or small aperture openings. Slide projecting nib to the left (f16) for bright outdoor pictures or to the right (f11) for cloudy outdoor or photoflood indoor pictures. Make sure the nib is all the way over to either side used.



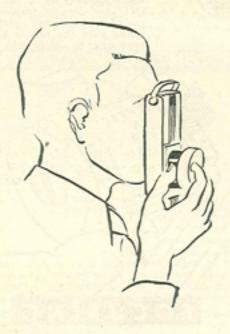
The COMET CAMERA folds down to small size to fit the pocket and be easier to carry. This is done by the barrel telescoping into the body. When it is fully shut, no pictures should be snapped. When taking pictures, the barrel is drawn out exposing the focussing scale. To focus, simply move the barrel until the proper distance mark on the scale shows against the body of the camera. The numbers are

scaled in feet and objects photographed

at that distance will insure good results.

THE FOCUSING FEATURE OF THE COMET CAMERA MAKES IT THE MOST OUTSTANDING AND VERSATILE CAMERA FOR THE AMATEUR IN THE POPULAR PRICE RANGE.

#### VIEW FINDER



The COMET has a built in view finder. In taking pictures the camera is held up to the eye. Anything that shows in the view finder will show in the picture. Actually, considerably more will appear in the picture. This is deliberately done to make sure no parts are left out or cut off. A little practice will show you how large a field is included in the picture. Aim your view finder at the center of the object to be photographed.

# HELPFUL SUGGESTIONS ON TAKING GOOD PICTURES WITH THE COMET CAMERA

#### THE LIGHT

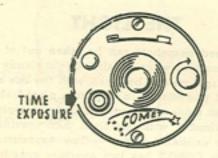
Well exposed snapshots can be taken out of doors on bright sunny days or on fairly bright cloudy days. Indoors, snapshots can be taken with the use of two or three #2 photofloods in reflectors placed about 5 feet from the subject. For very dull outdoor pictures or indoor pictures with less light than provided by photofloods as listed above — time exposures are needed. The COMET has two aperture speeds, f-11 and f-16. For bright outdoor conditions — always use f-16. For cloudy outdoor pictures and photoflood indoor pictures use f-11.

#### POSITION OF LIGHTING

Pictures outdoors should always be taken with the sun at the back or toward the side, never with the sun in front of the camera. Its light would enter into the lens and fog the film. Also it would not light up the front side of the objects being photographed.

When using photoflood, various effects are possible depending on the location of the lights. Generally, somewhat more light should come from one side than the other. For example: 2 photofloods can be placed on one side and one on the other. For natural shadow effects, at least 1 of the lights should be high enough to shine in a downward direction on the object. They should be placed within about 5 feet of the subject and far enough from the side to point in at about 45°. Make sure no direct light shines into the lens and that the lights are not in the way of the picture. For portraits, plain backgrounds are best. It is advisable to use one of the many texts on indoor portrait work. The COMET, due to its focusing range, will make fine portraits indoors or outdoors.

#### TIME EXPOSURES



When the light is dim out of doors or pictures are attempted indoors without the use of at least two #2 photofloods in reflectors, time exposures are needed. The camera must be firmly held on a solid object such as a table top. It must not move while the shutter is open.

To determine the length of exposure to use for a time exposure picture, some experience and the use of an exposure meter is needed for best results.

However, a fifth to a half second will probably do for a very dull day out of doors and several seconds for an indoor picture. A few rolls of film spent in experimenting will give the operator a better idea of the length of exposure to use.

## FEATURES!



Focussing scale to allow for distances from 2 feet to infinity.

"No jar" shutter - (Patent Pending)

Optically ground bent meniscus lens.

Two aperture openings for Bright or Dull.

Telescoping barrel to allow camera to fit in pocket,

Built-in view finder.

Hinged cover.

New automatic film spool ejecting springs

Takes black and white or color pictures indoor or outdoor.

Sturdy unbreakable plastic case.

Curved film track.

Attached carrying strap.

Takes full 127 size picture (1%" x  $2\frac{1}{4}$ ") allowing for sharp enlargement up to 8" x 10".

One year guarantee for mechanical defects.